

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A speech processing method, comprising the steps of:
2 operating a first device to receive speech;
3 transmitting the received speech from the first
4 device to a remote speech processing facility via the
5 Internet;
6 performing a speech recognition operation on said
7 speech at the remote speech processing facility; and
8 performing an action based on the outcome of the
9 speech recognition operation.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:
3 transmitting information generated from said
4 speech recognition operation via the Internet.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2,
2 wherein said information generated from said
3 speech recognition operation is information indicating at
4 least some of the recognized content of said speech.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2,
2 wherein said step of performing an action
3 includes:
4 retrieving from memory a telephone number
5 associated with a name which was recognized in said
6 speech; and

7 transmitting the telephone number to the first
8 device via the Internet.

1 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps
2 of:

3 operating the first device to receive the
4 telephone number transmitted via the Internet; and
5 operating the first device to initiate a
6 telephone call using the telephone number.

1 6. A method of operating a speech processing facility
2 coupled to the Internet, the method comprising the steps
3 of:

4 receiving speech data transmitted over the
5 Internet;
6 performing a speech recognition operation using
7 the received speech data; and
8 performing an action based on the results of
9 the speech recognition operation performed using the
0 received speech information.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:
3 initiating a telephone call using a telephone
4 number associated with a name recognized by performing
5 said speech recognition operation.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising the steps
2 of:

3 initiating an additional telephone call to a
4 telephone where the human being who was the source of
5 speech corresponding to said speech data can be
6 contacted; and

7 bridging said telephone call and said
8 additional telephone call.

1 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step
2 of:

3 receiving via the Internet said telephone
4 number where the human being who was the source of speech
5 corresponding to said speech data can be contacted.

1 10. The method of claim 6, wherein said speech data
2 includes at least one of digitized speech and speech
3 feature vectors.

1 11. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:

3 transmitting the speech data via the Internet
4 to another speech processing facility for additional
5 processing.

1 12. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of
2 performing an action includes:

3 transmitting information generated from said
4 speech recognition operation to a device via the
5 Internet.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the second
2 vocabulary is larger than the first vocabulary.

1
2 19. The method of claim 15, further comprising:
3 when the first device recognizes a word
4 representing a name with which a telephone number is
5 associated, the first device:
6 initiating a telephone call to said telephone
number.

20. The method of claim 15, the method further comprising the steps of:

- performing a feature vector extraction operation on said received speech; and
- including the extracted speech feature vectors in said speech data.

1 21. The method of claim 20, further comprising the step
2 of:
3 including a digital recording of said received
4 speech in said speech data.

1 22. The method of claim 15, further comprising the step
2 of:

3 receiving a telephone number from said remote
4 speech processing facility; and

5 initiating a telephone call by dialing the
6 received telephone number.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein when the first device fails to recognize any words in the first vocabulary in said received speech, the first device further performs the step of:

5 transmitting to the remote speech processing
6 facility a contact telephone number corresponding to a
7 telephone at which a human being who was the source of
8 the received speech can be contacted.

1 24. A speech processing system comprising, comprising:
2 a speech processing facility coupled to the
3 Internet, the speech processing facility including:

4 i. a receiver for receiving speech data
5 from the Internet;

6 ii. a speech recognizer for performing a
7 speech recognition operation on speech received
8 via the Internet; and

9 iii. means for performing an action based
10 on the outcome of the speech recognition
11 operation; and

12 a device coupled to the Internet, the device
13 including:

14
15
16
17
18

- 1
- 2

3
4
5

- 1
- 2

3
4
5

1

2
34
5

6
7
8

- 1
- 2
- 3

4
5

- 1
- 2

3
4
5

- 1
- 2

3
4
5